

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

**FILED**

LOUIS D. CRAFT, JR., )  
v. )  
Plaintiff, )  
KATHY MILLER, )  
Defendants. )

MAR 21 2012

WILLIAM B. GUTHRIE  
Clerk, U.S. District Court  
By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Clerk

**No. CIV 10-376-RAW-SPS**

**OPINION AND ORDER**  
**DENYING MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Plaintiff has filed a motion requesting the court to appoint counsel. He bears the burden of convincing the court that his claim has sufficient merit to warrant appointment of counsel. *McCarthy v. Weinberg*, 753 F.2d 836, 838 (10th Cir. 1985) (citing *United States v. Masters*, 484 F.2d 1251, 1253 (10th Cir. 1973)). The court has carefully reviewed the merits of plaintiff's claims, the nature of factual issues raised in his allegations, and his ability to investigate crucial facts. *McCarthy*, 753 F.2d at 838 (citing *Maclin v. Freake*, 650 F.2d 885, 887-88 (7th Cir. 1981)). After considering plaintiff's ability to present his claims and the complexity of the legal issues raised by the claims, the court finds that appointment of counsel is not warranted. *See Williams v. Meese*, 926 F.2d 994, 996 (10th Cir. 1991); *see also Rucks v. Boergermann*, 57 F.3d 978, 979 (10th Cir. 1995).

**ACCORDINGLY**, plaintiff's motion [Docket No. 34] is DENIED.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2011.

  
**RONALD A. WHITE**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**